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inch or less long, monocephalous: heads homogamous, about 20-flowered, subglobose, 5 lines high; exterior bracts of involucre foliaceous, scabrid, ovate, minute; interior ones smooth, oblong, obtuse, exceeded by disk; bracts of conic receptacle conduplicate, laciniate, rostrate: palets of pappus 20-23, linear-tapering, nearly naked, subequalling corolla; achenia pubescent.—Nearest, especially in foliage, to the Columbian *C. glomerata* Klatt., Bot. Jahrb. VIII, 45. Rocky mountain sides near Coban, alt. 4,300 feet, Aug., 1887. (Ex Pl. cit. 1353.)

PITCAIRNIA TUERCKHEIMII. Bot. Gazette, XIII, 190. Explanation of Plate XXIV: Fig. 1. Plant, nat. size. Fig. 2. Vertical section of flowers nat. size.

Baltimore, Md.

BRIEFER ARTICLES.

Oenothera albicaulis.—The order Onagraceæ contains many interesting and beautiful species and this species is not the least deserving of notice. The flowers are large, white at first, later turning to a delicate rose-color, and very conspicuous. One evening during July I was walking with a gentleman from the barn to the house. We passed along the edge of a kitchen garden, and when near the house I called his attention to a large patch of *Oenothera albicaulis* which had never known the hoe. He admired the flowers, remarking that they were worth cultivating for ornament. We had not gone ten yards beyond them when a most offensive, sickening foetid odor assailed our nostrils. At first we could not account for it, because we knew of no carrion in the vicinity. At last I concluded it arose from a stink-horn of some kind, and proposed to immediately find the offender. I turned my head for a last look at the beautiful evening primrose, and at that very instant the strange odor filled the air again, coming like a puff of warm breath from the direction of the flowers. Standing still a few moments I felt three more warm puffs, and each time was nearly overpowered by the accompanying smell. Subsequently I had an opportunity of observing the plant a little more closely. I found the puffs were stronger and more frequent on mild, still evenings; that they were then emitted, several in quick succession, at intervals ranging from twenty to thirty minutes. I never watched the plants all night, but have watched from eight in the evening till nearly two in the morning, and found that the puffs were stronger, more frequent and more regular between 9 and 12 P. M. than before or after. The flowers are influenced in opening and closing more by temperature than by the degree of light. When the morning is not too warm, that is to say not over 65° or 70° F., the flowers commonly re-

main open till 10 or 11 A. M. Likewise in the afternoon, when the heat is not too great, they begin to expand about 4 o'clock; at other times they may not open till 6 o'clock. I have taken "wilted" flowers, plucked during the heat of the day, placed their stems in a glass of water and removed the glass to a cool cellar with a northern aspect and plenty of light. In the course of an hour the flowers would slowly open. They seem to be very irregular in their habit. During the middle of the day the petals are wrinkled and loosely folded; the tube droops; the whole flower is limp and seemingly wilted, presenting a sorry appearance.—F. W. ANDERSON, *Great Falls, Montana*.

Some Nebraska plants.—In a recent visit to Clear Water, Neb., I was much impressed and somewhat surprised with the abundance and beauty of the wild flowers. Clear Water is a small town in the northern part of Antelope county, near where a creek of the same name flows into the Elkhorn river. Along the Elkhorn, and also along Clear Water creek, there is some timber, which in that region is deemed a luxury. The most abundant timber is the different species of willow, while the largest and most conspicuous tree is *Populus monilifera*. *Fraxinus viridis*, *Negundo aceroides* and *Celtis occidentalis* are frequently met with. *Juglans nigra* was not seen in this immediate vicinity, but it grows quite plentifully on Verdigris creek, in this county. Two shrubs which claimed my attention were *Amorpha fruticosa* and *Shepherdia argentea*. The latter is rarely met with. But one clump of these bushes was seen in the county. *Amorpha fruticosa* is plentiful, and when in flower is a very handsome shrub. *Symphoricarpos occidentalis* is abundant, and its flowers very pretty, although it is considered a great nuisance by cultivators of the soil. *Rhus glabra* is occasionally seen, while *R. Toxicodendron* is too abundant.

One of the first flowers to grace the prairies here in early spring is *Townsendia sericea*. It usually appears in April, before the spring grass or much other vegetation, which makes it seem prettier than it otherwise would be. *Petalostemon villosus* is so abundant that seen from a distance when in bloom it gives a rose-colored hue to the prairie. *P. violaceus* and *P. candidus* are both here, but not so plentiful as *P. villosus*. Three species of *Pentstemon* were noticed, of which *P. grandiflora* was the most conspicuous. Of the four species of *Astragalus* which were observed, *A. caryocarpus* seems to be the most common, and, for some reason, a favorite among the people. *Cypripedium candidum*, which is thought to be rare in the state, is quite commonly met with here. There is an abundance of wild roses of different hues, all of which belong to the same species, *Rosa Arkansana*. Two plants, *Taraxacum officinale* and *Cnicus arvensis*, which have in the last year or two been introduced, are likely to become great pests to the farmers.—EMMA R. MCGEE, *Clearwater, Neb.*

The clover rust.—*Uromyces trifolii* (A. & S.) Wint. has appeared on